Issue 3/2018

Focus on stamps

The Collector's Magazine

SPECIAL OFFER
for all “Focus on stamps” readers

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Cover image: Klemens Niklaus presents the King of acorns from the Swiss Jass set.
Photo: Thomas Rathgeb

Dear Reader
What do "Ober", "Under", "Stöck" and "Bock" have in common with stamps? Here's a little hint: they are all a fundamental part of our daily cultural heritage. As you will discover in the latest issue of Focus on stamps, we are devoting four special stamps to Jass, an important Swiss tradition, with the new Swiss Jass card design. There is a particular highlight for lovers of extraordinary collectors' editions: a matching set that includes playing cards, a sheet of stamps and background information, available to buy in our branches or at postshop.ch. If you are looking for the perfect stamp for a special event, such as a birthday, anniversary or wedding, you will be thrilled with our new stamps for special occasions. The matching stickers allow you to surprise recipients with lovingly decorated letters. The special stamps on the theme of fairy tales will transport children – and anyone else who enjoys such stories – into an enchanting world featuring scenes and characters from countless beloved fairy tales, such as Hansel and Gretel, the Frog King and Puss in Boots.
We are dedicating a stamp to the most well-known Swiss painter of the 19th century, Ferdinand Hodler, to mark the 100-year anniversary of his death. The stamp depicts one of his typical landscape paintings, "Lake Thun, Symmetric Reflection" – the original of which can be seen today in the Geneva Museums of Art and History. The visit of Pope Francis to the World Council of Churches in Geneva on 21 June to mark the 70th anniversary of the WCC is also commemorated with a stamp. We round off the current edition with the "Alpstein" miniature sheet, the next in our "Typical Swiss countryside" series, as well as with another issue of the popular definitive stamps and a postal card for the Pro Grigioni Italiano association.

I hope you will find this issue an enjoyable read and thank you for your loyalty.

Claudia Frankl
Head of Stamps
& Philately

Issuing programme

Issue date: 15 November 2018 / Featured in: Focus on stamps 4/2018

No.	Value	Description
4	**4.00**	**Miniature sheet Medicinal plants**
	1.00	Mouse-ear hawkweed
	1.00	Wolf's bane
	1.00	Sea spurge
	1.00	Globe artichoke
2	**2.00**	**Special stamps Fondue**
	1.00	Fondue pot
	1.00	Cheese
2	**2.75**	**Special stamps with surcharge Pro Juventute – Happy childhood**
	0.85+0.40	Toy bricks
	1.00+0.50	Blowing bubbles

No.	Value	Description
1	**1.50**	**Miniature sheet with surcharge** Stamp Day 2018 Allschwil
1	**3.60**	**Definitive stamp Swiss railway stations**
	3.60	Berne
4	**5.35**	**Special stamps Christmas**
	0.85	Castle
	1.00	Church
	1.50	Village
	2.00	Bridge

Subject to change.
Status: June 2018

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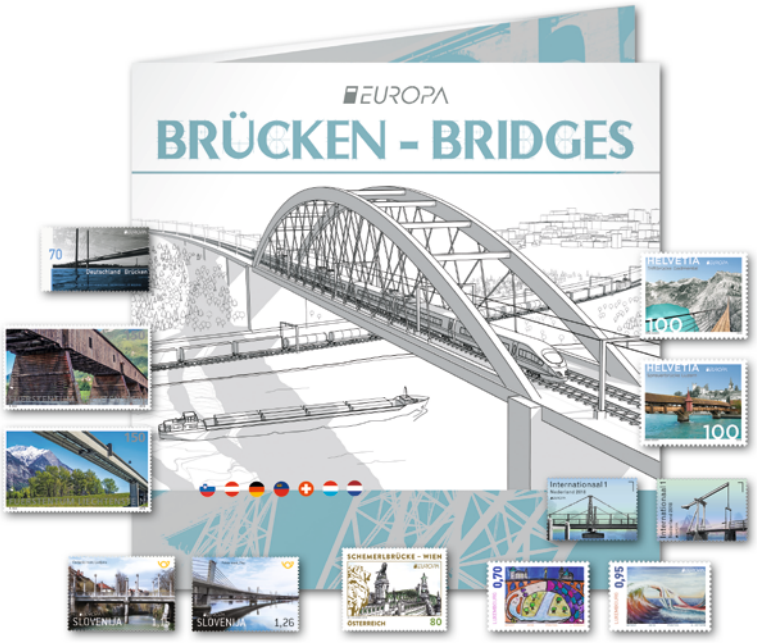
Multilateral set

This folder includes the twelve 2018 EUROPA original stamps for Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Slovenia, the Netherlands and Switzerland. It also contains exciting information about bridge construction in Europe and the bridges pictured on the stamps. The joint product is only available in German.



Product	Mint	Price in CHF
Multilateral set		
Joint product	A206 990	19.80

NABA Lugano 2018

At this year's level 1 national stamp exhibition "NABA Lugano 2018", 178 exhibitors showcased their valuable collections on a total of 1,410 frames. Between 17 and 20 May 2018, the Centro Esposizioni in Lugano played host to philatelists including some exhibitors who had even travelled from abroad. The next generation was also represented, with 22 young people aged between 6 and 18 given the opportunity to present their collections to the general public and benefit from the support of experienced philatelists.
Swiss Post welcomed its customers with a new look. Around 7,000 visitors enjoyed a well-organized, interesting exhibition featuring a varied programme. 20 stamp dealers were on hand to offer something for every stamp enthusiast. The Swiss Stamp Inspectors Association (SBPV) had its own stand for the first time, prompting countless stamp enthusiasts to have their documents valued or seek advice.
A highlight for certain collectors was the chance to meet Fabienne Angehrn, designer of the NABA Lugano stamp, who handed out countless autographs.
Swiss Post and the Club Filatelico di Lugano can look back on a successful exhibition and would like to thank all the visitors for attending.

Photos: Andrea Mezzalira, Jean-Paul Bach and Sebastian Ingold

Special stamps

Swiss Jass

King of acorns

Jack of bells

King of clubs

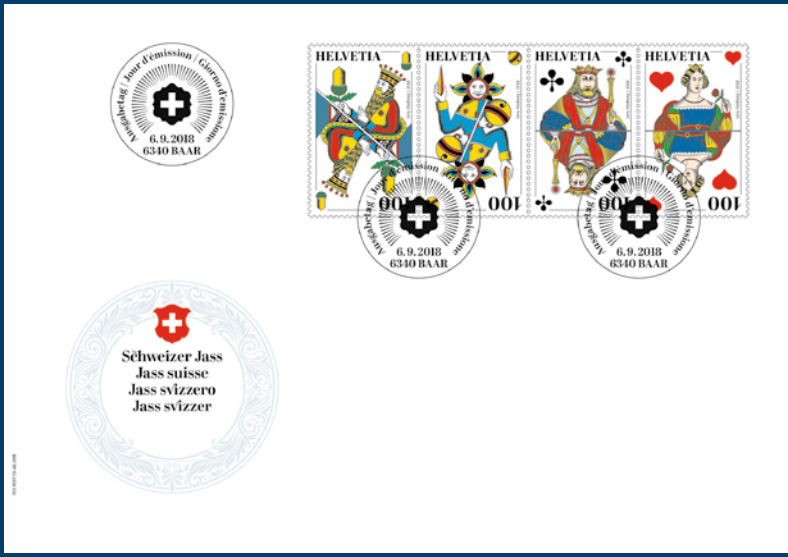
Queen of hearts

Do you play the "Schieber" variation? Or are you a "Differenzler" fan? Stöck! Bock! If these terms don't mean anything to you, you must be one of the few Swiss people who don't enjoy the game "Jass", Switzerland's number one national pastime.

Swiss Post is introducing a subject that is familiar throughout Switzerland to the stamp world with a sheetlet and four stamps. Whether you're young or old, at the pub or in your own home, a stickler for the rules or a more relaxed player, Jass is enjoyed all over Switzerland. SRF's "Samschtig-Jass" programme and its predecessors have been running since 1968, making it the oldest entertainment programme in Europe. This fact alone is testament to just how popular the game is. The special stamps depict the different playing cards used in various regions.

In German-speaking Switzerland the four suits are bells, shields, acorns and roses, whereas people in Western and Southern Switzerland play with hearts, diamonds, clubs and spades. One group says "Ober" and "Under", while the other sticks to "Queen" and "Jack". The Jass divide mainly runs along the Brünig-Napf-Reuss line and the Aare river.
In the Canton of Aargau, there are even municipalities where the different types of cards are used in separate parts of the same village!

Sheetlet of 8 stamps



Set on first-day cover E6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 30.8.2018 to 30.9.2019 Branches: from 6.9.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 6.9.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein
Sizes	Stamps: 28×44 mm Sheetlet: 192×115 mm (2 rows of 4 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13½
Design	Jens Riedweg, Baar

Jass card set

In the practical, valuable box you will find everything your Jass heart desires: an exclusive and limited-edition card set, a brochure with background information about the history of Jass and stamps, important Jass rules, playing tips and related addresses. Of course the set also comes with a "Swiss Jass" miniature sheet. The brochure is in three languages, and for the set you can choose between French or German cards.

A welcome gift for every Jass lover – or for anyone who wants to become one.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A219 150	A219 550	4.00
No block of four set available: subscribers will instead receive the item A219 150 (mint) and/or A219 550 (cancelled)			
Sheetlet with 8 stamps (the sheetlet contains two of each of the following stamps: "King of acorns", "Jack of bells", "King of clubs" and "Queen of hearts". Not available as separate motifs.)	A219 311	A219 351	8.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover E6		A219 580	5.00
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (4 covers)		A219 600	7.60
No block of four on first-day cover available: subscribers will instead receive the item A219 580 (cancelled)			
Sheetlet on first-day cover C5		A219 590	9.20
Unstamped covers/sheetlets			
C6 (162×114 mm)	A219 700		0.90
E6 (200×140 mm)	A219 701		1.00
C5 (229×162 mm)	A219 702		1.20
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A219 640	A219 650	4.80
Jass card set			
Multilingual Jass card set (de/fr/it) with German cards	A219 835		25.00
Multilingual Jass card set (de/fr/it) with French cards	A219 836		25.00
The Jass card sets are not supplied with the subscription.			

Jens Riedweg

The special stamps are the first stamp-related project by the designer from Baar. He has extensive knowledge of the game of Jass and has reissued and redesigned the old-fashioned Jass cards in both French- and German-speaking Switzerland. The motifs have been given a contemporary look without losing sight of the traditional values.

Definitive stamps

Swiss railway stations

After beginning its third journey in the Bernese Oberland, the "Swiss railway stations" definitive set crosses the Emmental valley and stops in Engadin on its way to the Val de Travers. Additional regional railway stations are illustrated on the four supplementary stamps.

Graphic designer Marc Weller is the owner of the Silversign agency. Having already designed around 20 stamp motifs, he is something of a regular. His work is characterized by close attention to detail. Marc Weller's abilities are showcased in technical and architectural designs, although dramatic stamp backgrounds are also among his strengths.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A217 150	A217 550	0.95
Set of blocks of four	A217 160	A217 560	3.80
Sheet of 10 stamps			
0.10 Zweisimmen	A217 361	A217 381	1.00
0.15 Huttwil	A217 362	A217 382	1.50
0.20 Alp Grüm	A217 363	A217 383	2.00
0.50 Fleurier NE	A217 364	A217 384	5.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A217 580	1.85
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (4 covers)		A217 600	4.55
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (4 covers)		A217 630	7.40
Unstamped cover C6	A217 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A217 640	A217 650	1.75

Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 30.8.2018 until further notice Branches: from 6.9.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 6.9.2018
Printing	Offset, 6-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 33×28 mm Sheet: 82×198 mm (5 rows of 2 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²
Perforation	Serpentine cut (4 sides)
Design	Marc Weller, Berne

Zweisimmen
The traditional Montreux–Bernese Oberland railway has a sleek new look on the stamps with the lowest value in the set.

Huttwil
In contrast, this station on the Berne–Lötschberg–Simplon railway station is an example of state-of-the-art architecture.

Alp Grüm
The Rhaetian Railway makes a stop at this historical, weatherproof building situated almost 2,100 metres above sea level.

Fleurier
This railway station in the Val de Travers also has a long history. Transports Publics Neuchâtelois / transN trains call in here.

In the 4/18 issue these four motifs will be completed with an additional stamp. The last collectors' folder with cancelled stamps and additional detailed architectural information will appear at the same time.

Folder (annual stamp issue)

Collectors' portfolio (for all three years of issue)

Folder and portfolio to collect
Here's something else to add to your collection. In issue 4 we will once again take you on a journey through Switzerland. The collectors' product (portfolio with folder) in the Swiss railway stations definitive set will be supplemented and made available again in the next edition.

Special events

Clover

Bird

Ladybird

Fern

Birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, deaths and other special events are opportunities to write personal letters and cards. That's something that hasn't changed, even in the WhatsApp era. Now there's even a special stamp for these occasions.

It would of course be impossible to cover every individual event, but Berne-based illustrator Claudine Etter has succeeded in creating four new stamp motifs suitable for use on a large number of occasions. She was inspired by the renewed popularity enjoyed by handwritten messages on account of their touch and feel.
The motifs have been designed using bold but peaceful images which are full of emotion, to ensure that their function can quickly be recognized. Two motifs represent happiness, making them ideal for sending congratulations or best wishes. The other two are more neutral. One depicts a small bird, the classic bearer of good tidings, while the other is more suited to a muted or even sad message, without dampening the prevailing positive mood of the set.
The special stamps ingeniously allude to the subject of letter mail thanks to their shared visual themes of paper, card and the written word – yet the actual messages are noticed only upon closer inspection. The sheet features an unusual innovation in the form of free stickers designed in the same style. They allow the sender to decorate their mail and surprise the recipient.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A215 150	A215 550	3.70
Set of blocks of four	A215 160	A215 560	14.80
Sheet of 10 stamps			
0.85 Clover	A215 361	A215 381	8.50
0.85 Bird	A215 362	A215 382	8.50
1.00 Ladybird	A215 363	A215 383	10.00
1.00 Fern	A215 364	A215 384	10.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A215 580	4.60
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (4 covers)		A215 600	7.30
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (4 covers)		A215 630	18.40
Unstamped cover C6	A215 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A215 640	A215 650	4.50
Card sets with stamps			
Set of 4 A6 folded cards with the "Clover" motif, 4 C6 covers and 4 "Clover" special stamps at CHF 0.85 (non-affixed)	A215 951		9.20
Set of 4 A6 folded cards with the "Bird" motif, 4 C6 covers and 4 "Bird" special stamps at CHF 0.85 (non-affixed)	A215 952		9.20
Set of 4 A6 folded cards with the "Ladybird" motif, 4 C6 covers and 4 "Ladybird" special stamps at CHF 1.00 (non-affixed)	A215 953		9.80
Set of 4 A6 folded cards with the "Fern" motif, 4 C6 covers and 4 "Fern" special stamps at CHF 1.00 (non-affixed)	A215 954		9.80
The card sets are not supplied with the subscription.			

Set on first-day cover C6

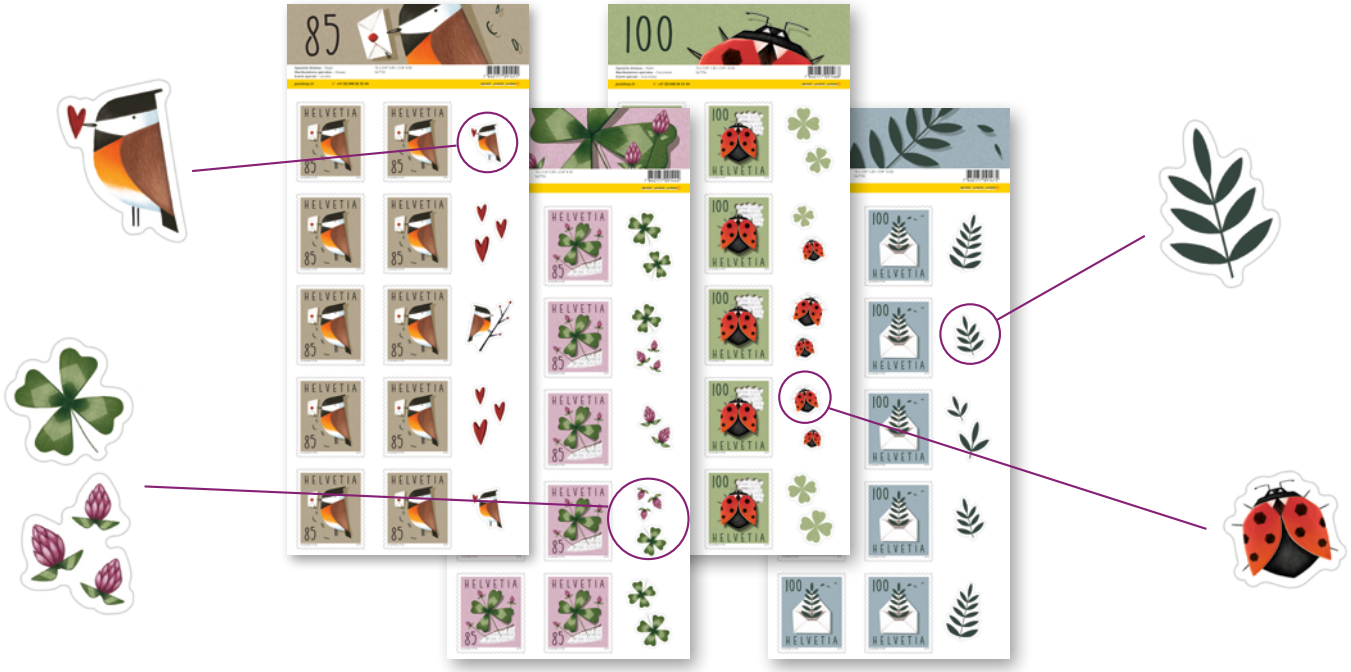
Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 30.8.2018 Branches: from 6.9.2018 until further notice
Validity	Unlimited from 6.9.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 28×33 mm Sheet: 100×228 mm (5 rows of 2 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²
Perforation	Serpentine cut (4 sides)
Design	Claudine Etter, Berne

With special covers from the "Green-Line" range by Artoz

Card sets with stamps

Decorate your letter mail

Surprise the recipient with the free stickers included on the sheet!



Special stamp

Ferdinand Hodler 1853–1918

To mark 100 years since the death of Ferdinand Hodler (1853–1918), a special stamp is being issued which depicts one of his typical landscape paintings, "Lake Thun, Symmetric Reflection", from 1905.

The most famous Swiss painter of the 19th century was raised in Berne. It was a childhood that was spent in poverty and was marked by several blows of fate. After studying in Thun and working in Geneva, his first solo exhibitions opened in the mid-1880s. He subsequently developed his own style, which brought him international fame. Hodler's compositions focus on the natural order: trees along a path, clouds and hills, groups of people. He organized his subjects in parallel patterns, creating symmetry and repetitions.

The painting "Lake Thun, Symmetric Reflection", owned by the Museums of Art and History in Geneva, is a typical representation of this phase of the artist's work. Hodler's breakthrough came in 1891 with the controversial painting, "The Night", which portrayed sleep, death and sexuality. By the time he achieved success at the Exposition Universelle in Paris in 1900, he was already one of the most important painters in Europe. His later work was defined by seemingly impressionist characteristics.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Single stamp	A220 150	A220 550	1.00
Block of four	A220 160	A220 560	4.00
Sheet of 20 stamps	A220 111	A220 511	20.00
Covers			
Single stamp on first-day cover C6		A220 580	1.90
Block of four on first-day cover C6		A220 630	4.90
Unstamped cover C6	A220 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A220 640	A220 650	1.80

Exhibitions
The Museums of Art and History in Geneva are celebrating 100 years since the death of Hodler with a series of events lasting a whole year. In association with the Museum of Fine Arts Berne, the Geneva museums are also organizing a "Hodler//Parallelism" retrospective at the Rath Museum in Geneva from 20 April to 19 August and at the Museum of Fine Arts Berne from 14 September 2018 to 13 January 2019.

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Technical information

Sales	Philately: from 30.8.2018 to 30.9.2019 Branches: from 6.9.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 6.9.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France
Sizes	Stamps: 33×28 mm Sheet: 195×140 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼:13½

Special stamp

Papal visit to Switzerland

Pope Francis visited Switzerland on 21 June 2018 to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the World Council of Churches (WCC) in Geneva. The WCC is an association of churches seeking unity among Christians.

The WCC, or World Council of Churches, includes 348 Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox and Old Catholic churches, as well as ecclesiastical communities from more than 110 countries. They represent more than 500 million Christians worldwide.
The WCC was founded in Amsterdam on 23 August 1948 and is based in Geneva.
This visit by Pope Francis is especially significant from an ecumenical perspective since the Roman Catholic Church is the largest church in the world with over 1.3 billion adherents but is not a member of the WCC.

Popes have been a popular motif around the globe for decades. In the past, several European postal organizations have immortalized papal visits on stamps. Swiss Post has followed suit for the first time by honouring the Pope's visit with a commemorative stamp.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Single stamp	A244 150	A244 550	1.00
Block of four	A244 160	A244 560	4.00
Sheet of 16 stamps	A244 111	A244 511	16.00
Covers			
Single stamp on first-day cover C6		A244 580	1.90
Block of four on first-day cover C6		A244 630	4.90
Unstamped cover C6	A244 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A244 640	A244 650	1.80

Important note!
The stamp sheets (A244 111) and unstamped cover (A244 700) are available for delivery effective immediately. Please note that orders also containing other papal stamp products or products from the 3/2018 issue will not be dispatched until 30 August 2018.
If you want to receive the stamps / empty covers sooner, you will need to order them separately. A processing fee of 7 francs will be charged for orders under 15 francs.

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 21.6.2018 to 30.9.2019 Branches: from 21.6.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 21.6.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein
Sizes	Stamps: 40×32.5 mm Sheet: 190×160 mm (4 rows of 4 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼:13½
Design	Vito Noto, Lugano

Special stamps

Fairy tales

Forest

Meadow

The pair of "fairy tale" motifs on two sheetlets illustrate a subject which will enchant children and adults alike. The stamps, and above all the sheet, are covered in countless well-known figures, reminding many an adult of their own childhood.

A host of figures, such as the Valiant Little Tailor, Cinderella, the Ugly Duckling and Little Longnose, are depicted together in a scene rich in detail. When placed side by side, the two sheetlets create an enchanted fairytale world. In the "Forest" motif, characters including the Frog King, the Town Musicians of Bremen and the witch from Hansel and Gretel are grouped around a fairy, who is telling a story. On the "Meadow" stamp, Puss in Boots can be seen playing music in the foreground, while the wolf and the kids, Mother Hulda and Rapunzel frolic in the background. Many other familiar faces can also be spotted on both sheets.

Viviane Dommann was born in Lucerne, but now lives in Meilen (Canton of Zurich), where she works as a freelance illustrator. She has deliberately brought together characters who had never come across one another in their separate fairytale worlds. With great attention to detail, she has created her own universe which reveals more and more secrets to the viewer with every glance.

"Forest" sheetlet of 6 stamps

"Meadow" sheetlet of 6 stamps

Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 30.8.2018 to 30.9.2019 Branches: from 6.9.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 6.9.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein
Sizes	Stamps: 40×32.5 mm Sheetlet: 192×115 mm (2 rows of 3 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼:13½
Design	Viviane Dommann, Meilen

Viviane Dommann, who was born in Lucerne on Friday, 13 December 1963, works as a freelance illustrator in the Canton of Zurich. After training to become a teacher, she gave drawing and handicraft lessons for several years. Her designs have been used to illustrate picture books, apps, book and CD covers, stamps and cards for a variety of events. Her originals, mostly watercolours, pencil and ink drawings, are on show at several exhibitions. The unique images in her own particular style tell entire stories through their diversity. If you inspect the minutely detailed illustrations at leisure, you will discover something new, unexpected, personal or funny each time you look at them.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A218 150	A218 550	2.00
Set of blocks of four	A218 160	A218 560	8.00
Sheetlet of 6 stamps			
1.00 Forest	A218 311	A218 351	6.00
1.00 Meadow	A218 312	A218 352	6.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A218 580	2.90
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A218 600	3.80
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A218 630	9.80
Sheetlet on first-day cover C5			
1.00 Forest		A218 591	7.20
1.00 Meadow		A218 592	7.20
Unstamped covers/sheetlets			
C6 (162×114 mm)	A218 700		0.90
C5 (229×162 mm)	A218 701		1.20
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A218 640	A218 650	2.80

Miniature sheet

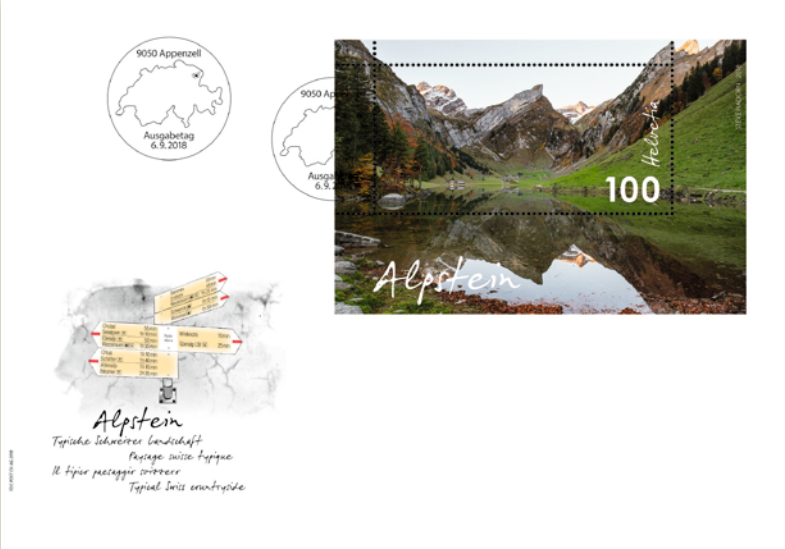
Typical Swiss countryside – Alpstein

With its distinctive peaks and idyllic mountain lakes, the Alpstein is one of the most popular excursion destinations in the country. Swiss Post is dedicating a miniature sheet to this typical Swiss countryside in the Appenzell Alps.

The Alpstein Massif, which belongs to the Cantons of Appenzell Innerrhoden, Appenzell Ausserrhoden and St Gallen, is not among the highest Alpine peaks, yet nonetheless towers dramatically above the surrounding landscape, creating an extremely impressive effect.
The Säntis reigns over them all. Its peak is "only" 2,502 metres above sea level, but it forms a striking landmark. On a clear day, it can even be seen from the Black Forest. By the same token, no less than six countries are visible from the Säntis: Liechtenstein, Germany, Austria, Italy and France, in addition to Switzerland itself.
Of the three mountain lakes in the region, the Sämtisersee, the Fählensee and the Seealpsee, only the third has an outflow above the ground. Most of the water trickles away through cracks, cavities and sinkholes in the limestone massif. The Seealpsee, which is pictured on the miniature sheet, sits at 1,141 metres above sea level and is a popular destination for day trippers and photographers alike. Photographer Steve Hadorn managed to capture a particularly impressive autumnal atmosphere looking towards the Säntis.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Miniature sheet	A214 315	A214 815	1.00
Covers			
Miniature sheet on first-day cover E6		A214 580	2.00
Covers without miniature sheet			
C6 (162×114 mm)	A214 700		0.90
E6 (200×140 mm)	A214 701		1.00
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A214 640	A214 650	1.80



Miniature sheet on first-day cover E6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 30.8.2018 to 30.9.2019 Branches (Appenzell region only): from 6.9.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 6.9.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France
Sizes	Stamps: 76×38 mm Miniature sheet: 105×70 mm
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13½
Design	Steve Hadorn, Amriswil

Typical scattered settlement in Appenzell
Photo: ImagePoint, Siegfried Eigstler

Säntis the giant

Once upon a time there was a huge giant called Sämtis or Säntis who lived in Appenzell. The Weissbach valley was his bed, and the Meglisalp with its thick alpine grass was his pillow. And just at the crook of his elbow is where the Seealpsee lies today. He carried his food around in a sack which he had cobbled together from the hides of aurochs and bears.

One day, the giant wandered down to the flat land by the lake and was delighted by the sight of all the little houses clumped together and the tiny people scurrying around like ants. He wanted to look at these things more closely in the comfort of his own home, so he grabbed a handful of cottages, including their inhabitants, and put them in his giant sack.

A stout farmer taken by surprise whilst harvesting his crops was able to take cover in a ditch. Just as the giant fist moved over him, he leapt up and reached out with his scythe, cutting a long slit in the sack.

The giant nonetheless swung the sack over his shoulder and stomped off back to the Alpstein. The sack swung this way and that with every step, and as it did so, the houses were spread far and wide across the land.

It was only when the giant sat down on the Alpsiegel to examine his loot that he noticed the sack was almost completely empty. In his rage, he promptly emptied out the rest of the sack at his feet.

Source: Peter Keckeis (ed.): Sagen der Schweiz. St.Gallen, Appenzell Ausserrhoden and Innerrhoden. With a forward by Alois Senti. Published by Ex Libris, Zurich, 1987.

Postal card

100 years Pro Grigioni Italiano

The Pro Grigioni Italiano (Pgi) association, which was established in Chur in 1918, is committed to promoting the values and culture of the Italian-speaking population in the Canton of Graubünden. A postal card is being issued to mark its 100th anniversary.

Four valleys, 15 municipalities, 53 villages: around 24,000 people in the Canton of Graubünden speak Italian. Around half of them live in the valleys of Puschlav, Bergell, Misox and Calancatal, sometimes long distances apart. They often refer to themselves as the "minority of the minority". Graubünden is the only Swiss canton where three languages are spoken. As a result of this, and due to its outline, which is reminiscent of Switzerland as a whole, it is also known as "Little Switzerland".
The activities and campaigns carried out by the Pgi are based on a service agreement with the Canton of Graubünden. The association promotes the preservation, awareness and acceptance of the Italian-language area and encourages solidarity among the Italian-speaking population in the canton. Its activities include cultural events, publications and advisory services.

The front of the postal card designed in the colours of the Pgi represents the Canton of Graubünden; the regions where Italian is spoken are shown in colour. The 53 melodious names of the villages are listed in the background.

Postmark and stamp on the postal card

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Postal stationery			
Postal card "100 years Pro Grigioni Italiano", face value CHF 1.00 + 1.00 for the card	A216 841	A216 846	2.00

ANGELI CUSTODI · ANNUNZIATA · ARVIGO · AUGIO
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ISOLA · LANDARENCA · LE PRESE · LEGGIA · LI CURT
LOSTALLO · MALOJA · MESOCCO · MIRAGGO · PAGNONCINI · PEDEMONTE · PIAZZO · POSCHIAVO · PRADA
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SANTA DOMENICA · SANTA MARIA IN CALANCA · SELMA · SOAZZA · SOGLIO · STAMPA · VALBELLA
VERDABBIO · VRANO · VICOSOPRANO · ZALENDE
100 anni Pgi

Postal card, front side

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 30.8.2018 to 30.9.2019 Branches: from 6.9.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 6.9.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Mastra Druck AG, Urtenen-Schönbühl, Switzerland
Sizes	Card: 148×105 mm Stamps: 33×28 mm
Paper	Offset cardboard white, 235 gm²
Design	Gion Fry, Zurich

Colourful stamps

Issue set with single stamps 3/2018

Issue set with first-day covers (FDC) 3/2018

Annual and special products	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Issue set with single stamps 3/2018*			
The single stamp, sets and miniature sheet in the 3/2018 issue are displayed on a free A5 backing card and protected with cellophane wrapping.	A222 150	A222 550	12.65
Issue set with first-day covers (FDC) 3/2018*			
The first-day covers with the single stamp, sets and miniature sheet in the 3/2018 issue are combined in one free cover.		A222 580	18.25
* The "Papal visit to Switzerland" commemorative stamp is not included in the issue set.			
2017 year book			
Representing a valuable record of our times, the year book presents all Swiss stamps and first-day cancellations for 2017, along with an exclusive black print, on over 100 pages in four languages (De/Fr/It/En).	A180 830	A180 831	69.00
2017 year set			
All Swiss stamps for 2017, clearly laid out on four handy display cards with transparent protective sleeve.	A179 320	A179 820	60.25
2017 year set with first-day covers (FDC)			
All 28 first-day covers for 2017 – including the single stamps, sets or miniature sheets with the respective first-day cancellations.		A179 530	85.85

2019 stamp catalogues	Art. no.	Price in CHF
Zumstein		
Switzerland/Liechtenstein/UN Geneva 2019, German/French	A221 725	35.00
Swiss stamp catalogue		
Switzerland/Liechtenstein/UN Geneva 2019, German/French	A221 787	37.00
The stamp catalogues can be delivered in Switzerland and Liechtenstein only.		

Collector starter set (German)	Art. no.	Price in CHF
Everything you need for stamp collecting packed in a yellow rucksack (41×33cm): collection poster with instructions on how to collect stamps (A3), display cards, drying book, magnifying glass, tweezers, perforation gauge, used stamps for soaking off, stamp catalogue and information about subscribing.	1558 901	29.00
The Stamp collector starter set can be delivered in Switzerland and Liechtenstein only.		

1

Jubilee commemorative Swiss coin

„125 years railway Brienz-Rothorn“!

Ø 30 mm

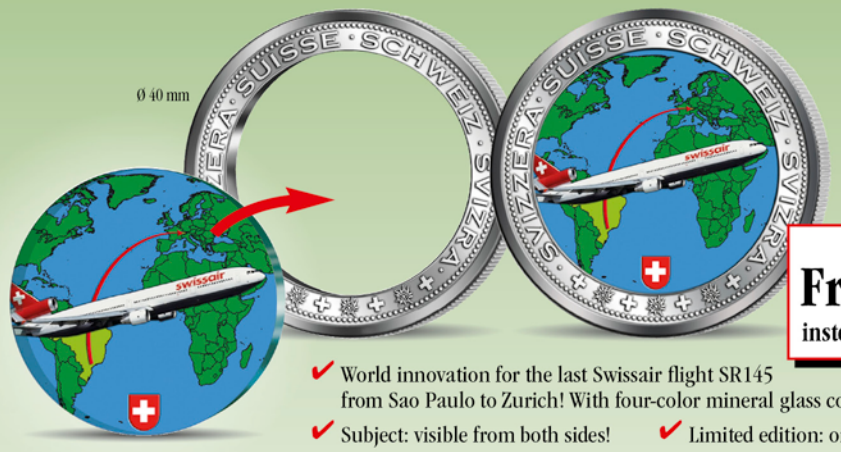
- Swiss art of coinage with four-color enamel plating „125 years railway Brienz-Rothorn“!
- Worldwide limited edition of 5.000 samples!
- You pay only Fr. 5.- instead of Fr. 19.95!

only **Fr. 5.-**
instead of Fr. 19.95

Swiss commemorative coin with mineral glass core „Last Swissair scheduled flight 15 years ago“!

The last Swissair scheduled flight SR145 coming from Sao Paulo landed in Zurich April 1st 2002, 15 years ago. With this worldwide limited Swiss commemorative coin with mineral glass core, we dignify in a special way the last swissair flight back to the home country Switzerland.

2.



only
Fr. 14.90
instead of Fr. 69.90

- World innovation for the last Swissair flight SR145 from Sao Paulo to Zurich! With four-color mineral glass core!
- Subject: visible from both sides!
- Limited edition: only 2.000 samples!

3

First „Lederhosen“-stamp with Swarovski crystals!

New!

Austria,
Nominal value: € 6,30,
Original size:
35 x 42 mm

Official leather stamp from Austria in Tyrolean leather trousers-shape, decorated with 6 (!) Swarovski crystals!

only
Fr. 12.90

4

The first glass stamp!

Original size: 32 x 45 x 2 mm

- New special stamp from Austria „Virgin of Pity under the Cross“! (in mint condition)
- Official limited edition of only 140.000 samples!

only
Fr. 9.90

5

First embroidery-stamp dirndl-shaped!

- The first official embroidery-stamp from Austria, dirndl-shaped!
- About forty meters of thread have been used to realise this tiny philatelic piece of art!
- Fine new quality!

Original size: 31 x 50 mm

only
Fr. 9.90

My order

Yes, please send me following start editions and monthly another edition from the respective collection without obligation and for inspection. I do have a refund policy of 14 days for all deliveries!

1. ___ x Swiss art of coinage with four-color enamel plating **„125 years railway Brienz-Rothorn“** for **only Fr. 5.-!**
2. ___ x Swiss commemorative coin with mineral glass core **„Last Swissair scheduled flight 15 years ago“** for **only Fr. 14.90!**
3. ___ x **First leather stamp in leather trousers-shape** with 6 Swarovski crystals (new) for **only Fr. 12.90!**
4. ___ x **First glass stamp** „Virgin of Pity under the cross“ (new) for **only Fr. 9.90!**
5. ___ x **First embroidery-stamp dirndl-shaped** (new) for **only Fr. 9.90!**
6. ___ x Silver stamp **„170 years Mauritius“** (999/1000 fine silver, proof) for **only Fr. 10.-!**
7. ___ x Swiss silver coin **„Matterhorn“** (999/1000 fine silver, 20 grams, proof) for **only Fr. 20.-** instead of Fr. 89.90!

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Swiss silver coin „Matterhorn“

7.

Ø 40 mm

Fr. 20.-
instead of Fr. 89.90

The most famous stamp of the world

„170 years Mauritius“ in 999/1000 fine silver!

Original size: 21 x 25 mm

only
Fr. 10.-

6.

- This silver stamp (999/1000 fine silver) has been modelled original faithful on the real stamp „Blue Mauritius“!
- Highest quality of coinage: proof!
- Restricted edition: only 5.000 pieces!